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EAST EUROPE BRANCH NOTES

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29 Apr. 1974

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EAST GERMANY

Cooperation With Bonn Undercut by Espionage

East and West German representatives signed three more agreements, two on financial arrangements and one on health, on April 25.

One financial agreement covers family support payments, e.g. money sent by children in the FRG to support their parents in the GDR. Another allows limited transfers of personal assets from bank accounts in one state to banks in the other. The GDR is expected to gain financially from these two arrangements. The health agreement covers the exchange of medical information, and provides that each state will pay the emergency medical expenses of visitors from the other.

Bonn officials feel that the Soviets pressed Pankow into concluding these agreements speedily in order to bolster Chancellor Brandt's position before the June elections in Lower Saxony. Unfortunately, the case of the East German spy in Brandt's chancellery will probably nullify any good the agreements might have done. The two governments have already postponed the opening of their permanent missions, set for May 2, until later in the month.

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